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IBM to be a Sponsor of OSGi™ 2003 World Congress

IBM to provide Platinum-level support to Düsseldorf forum

San Ramon, Calif. – The OSGi™ Alliance today announced IBM as a Platinum Sponsor of the OSGi 2003 World Congress. IBM has been deeply involved with the OSGi Alliance from its very start in 1999, and has been represented among the Officers and the Board of Directors of the OSGi Alliance since its inception. IBM has also made contributions of strategic significance to the OSGi Service Platform.

The OSGi 2003 World Congress will be a gathering of the world's top experts on commercially available and developing OSGi implementations, including focused tracks for the automotive electronics, smart home, and service provider environments. The Congress will be held at the Düsseldorf Conference Center in Düsseldorf Germany 21-24 October 2003.

"As devices grow in computing power, handheld computers, PDAs, consumer appliances, and even automobiles start performing functions that used to be limited to PCs and laptops. This means that standards and interoperability are more crucial than ever," said Craig Hayman, Vice President Development, IBM Pervasive Computing Division. "IBM has been involved with the OSGi Alliance from the start, driving the various releases of the specification and working with the industry to advance the OSGi Alliance and its mission."

Applications and software developers, service aggregators, hardware platform providers, consumer electronics and automotive manufacturers will gather at the Congress to see and learn how the OSGi Service Platform is being used in a variety of networked environments. OSGi based deployments for in-vehicle entertainment and information services, home network services, and smart handheld devices will be prominently featured. Selected speakers will show how to easily deploy, provision, maintain, and manage applications and services to wired and wireless networked devices and will illustrate the benefits of the OSGi Service Platform to end-users, network operators, and manufacturers.

"We're very pleased to have such a prominent company as IBM as a major sponsor," said Dr. John Barr, President of the OSGi Alliance. "The OSGi Service Platform is increasingly becoming accepted as the solution for the delivery of managed services to all types of networked devices in home, vehicle, mobile, industrial, and other environments as well as a new model for the implementation of complex embedded system solutions."

At the Congress, attendees will hear progress reports on commercially compelling OSGi

implementations from a wide variety of organizations and companies including those from three vertical markets reflective of markets currently served by the OSGi Alliance: automotive electronics, smart homes, and service providers. One full day will be dedicated to special tracks focusing on the OSGi technology in automotive environments, in the home, and in networks. The agenda will also include an OSGi technology overview, and examinations of OSGi applications and deployments throughout the world.

Special features of the event will include an analyst roundtable and a “Venture Shootout”, where companies will have ten minutes to present their ideas to a panel of venture capitalists and receive an instant ‘yes/no/maybe’.

Immediately preceding the Congress, the OSGi Alliance will hold an optional full-day tutorial on the OSGi Service Platform on Tuesday, October 21.

The event is being produced for the OSGi Alliance by Global Inventures.

For registration information go to www.osgiworldcongress.com.

About IBM

IBM (www.ibm.com) is the world's leading e-business company offering a wide range of services, solutions and technologies that help businesses take advantage of emerging innovation. IBM provides a robust infrastructure for your e-business environment based on open industry standards like those of the OSGi Alliance. Integration demands open standards. With billions of smart devices interacting, the problems of integration cannot be solved with an exclusively proprietary approach. The OSGi Service Platform is a vital link in the value chain of open industry standards that make possible new worlds of e-business solutions based on intelligent, networked devices in businesses, industry, vehicles, the home, and even in your hand. IBM provides the complete range of offerings and services to make this new world of pervasive computing solutions available to you. With the IBM Service Management Framework™, the OSGi Framework component of WebSphere® Everyplace Embedded Software, WebSphere Micro Edition, a Java Virtual Machine environment, Eclipse and WebSphere Device Developer development tools, DB2 Everyplace and Cloudbase databases, MQSeries Everyplace message queuing systems, combined with WebSphere and Lotus server software, and consulting services from the world's largest IT services organization - IBM Global Services - IBM can truly serve as your end-to-end one-stop-shop for OSGi based business solutions.

About the OSGi Alliance

The OSGi Alliance and its members specify, create, advance, and promote an open service delivery and management platform and foster its wide industry adoption. The OSGi Alliance serves as the focal point for a collaborative ecosystem of service provider, technology, industrial, consumer and automotive electronics communities. As an independent non-profit corporation, the OSGi Alliance also provides for the fair and uniform creation and distribution of relevant intellectual property – including specifications, reference implementations, and test suites – to all its members.

The OSGi Service Platform is an extensible integration platform used to remotely and dynamically deploy, provision, maintain, and manage applications and services to devices in networked environments, such as homes, vehicles, mobile handhelds, and industrial settings.

Membership is open to any interested party, including Internet service providers, network operators, original equipment manufacturers, independent software vendors, end users, academic institutions, government agencies, and non-profit organizations. The consortium's Web site address is <http://www.osgi.org>.

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